Methods of treating multiple myeloma using combination therapies based on HuLuc63 with bortezomib

Composition suitable for treating multiple myeloma in a subject, comprising a therapeutically effective amount of HuLuc63, a therapeutically effective amount of bortezomib, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein said composition is capable of being administered in a single or multiple dose regimen.
1. CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application claims benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) to application Serial Nos. 60/836,185, filed August 7, 2006 and 60/944,262, filed June 15, 2007, the contents of which are incorporated herein by reference.

2. BACKGROUND

Multiple myeloma ("MM") represents a malignant proliferation of plasma cells derived from a single clone. The terms multiple myeloma and myeloma are used interchangeably to refer to the same condition. The myeloma tumor, its products, and the host response to it result in a number of organ dysfunctions and symptoms of bone pain or fracture, renal failure, susceptibility to infection, anemia, hypocalcemia, and occasionally clotting abnormalities, neurologic symptoms and vascular manifestations of hyperviscosity. See D. Longo, in Harrison’s Principles of Internal Medicine 14th Edition, p. 713 (McGraw- Hill, New York, 1998). No effective long-term treatment currently exists for MM. It is a malignant disease of plasma cells, manifested as hyperproteinemia, anemia, renal dysfunction, bone lesions, and immunodeficiency. MM is difficult to diagnose early because there may be no symptoms in the early stage. The disease has a progressive course with a median duration of survival of six months when no treatment is given. Systemic chemotherapy is the main treatment, and the current median of survival with chemotherapy is about three years, however fewer than 5% live longer than 10 years (See Anderson, K. et al., Annual Meeting Report 1999). Recent Advances in the Biology and Treatment of Multiple Myeloma (1999).

While multiple myeloma is considered to be a drug-sensitive disease, almost all patients with MM who initially respond to chemotherapy eventually relapse (See Anderson, K. et al., Annual Meeting Report 1999. Recent Advances in the Biology and Treatment of Multiple Myeloma (1999)). Since the introduction of melphalan and prednisone therapy for MM, numerous multi-drug chemotherapies including Vinca alkaloid, anthracycline, and nitrosourea-based treatment have been tested (See Case, D C et al., (1977) Am. J. Med 63:897-903), but there has been little improvement in outcome over the past three decades (See Case, D C et al., (1977) Am. J. Med 63:897-903; Otsuki, T. et al, (2000) Cancer Res. 60:1). New methods of treatment, such as combination therapies utilizing monoclonal antibodies and therapeutic agents, are needed.

3. SUMMARY

Described herein are treatments and methods useful for exploiting the anti-tumor properties of anti-CS1 antibodies. Anti-CS1 antibodies that can be used in the methods and compositions are described in U.S. Patent Publications No. 2005/0025763 and 2006/0024296, the contents of which are incorporated herein by reference. The anti-CS1 antibodies target CS1 (CD2- subset1), which is also known as SLAMF7, CRACC, 19A, APEX-1, and FOAP12 (Genbank Accession Number NM_021181.3). CS1, is a glycoprotein that is highly expressed in bone marrow samples from patients diagnosed with MM. In both in vitro and in vivo studies, anti-CS1 antibodies exhibit significant anti-myeloma activity (see, e.g., U.S. Patent Publication Nos. 2005/0025763 and 2006/0024296, the contents of which are incorporated herein by reference). By way of example, but not limitation, the anti-CS1 antibody, HuLuc63 effectively mediates lysis of myeloma cells via antibody dependent cellular cytotoxicity (ADCC) (see, e.g., U.S. Patent Publication No. 2005/0025763, the content of which is incorporated herein by reference). In a myeloma mouse tumor model, treatment with HuLuc63 significantly reduced tumor mass by more than 50% (see, e.g., U.S. Patent Publication No. 2005/0025763, the content of which is incorporated herein by reference).

The present disclosure relates to compositions and methods for treating patients diagnosed with Monoclonal Gammopathy of Undetermined Significance (MGUS), smoldering myeloma, asymptomatic MM, and symptomatic MM, ranging from newly diagnosed to late stage relapsed/refractory. In particular, the methods relate to the administration of a pharmaceutical composition comprising an anti-CS1 antibody, such as HuLuc63, in combination with one or more therapeutic agents. The anti-CS1 antibody is typically administered in a first pharmaceutical composition as an intravenous infusion at doses ranging from 0.5 to 20 mg/kg, from once a week to once a month.

A second pharmaceutical composition comprising one or more therapeutic agents, such as bortezomib, can be administered concurrently, prior to, or following administration of an anti-CS1 antibody. Depending on the agent, the composition can be administered orally, intravenously or subcutaneously. Therapeutic agents can be used at high dose rates, standard dose rates and at reduced dose rates.

In some embodiments, administration of the pharmaceutical compositions described herein increases the sensitivity of multiple myeloma cells to a therapeutic agent. By way of example, but not limitation, inclusion of an anti-CS1 antibody can enhance the activity of the therapeutic agent, such that lower doses can be used in the compositions and methods described herein.
In some embodiments, administration of the pharmaceutical compositions described herein elicits at least one of the beneficial responses as defined by the European Group for Blood and Marrow transplantation (EBMT). For example, administration of the pharmaceutical compositions described herein can result in a complete response, partial response, minimal response, no change, or plateau.

4. BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE FIGURES

FIGS. 1A-1C depict autologous ADCC-mediated lysis of MM cells treated with HuLuc63;

FIGS. 2A-2B depict HuLuc63 induced ADCC against Hsp90 and bortezomib resistant patient tumor cells;

FIGS. 3A-3D depict the effect of bortezomib pre-treatment on HuLuc63-mediated ADCC in vitro. Examples are shown for 4 different donors; and,

FIGS. 4A-4B depict the effect of HuLuc63 and bortezomib in OPM2 tumor-bearing mice.

5. DETAILED DESCRIPTION

The compositions described herein combine anti-CS1 antibodies with one or more therapeutic agents at specific doses to potentiate or complement the anti-myeloma activities of the other. Examples of suitable anti-CS 1 antibodies include, but are not limited to, isolated antibodies that bind one or more of the three epitope clusters identified on CS 1 and monoclonal antibodies produced by the hybridoma cell lines: Luc2, Luc3, Luc15, Luc22, Luc23, Luc29, Luc32, Luc34, Luc35, Luc37, Luc38, Luc56, Luc60, Luc63, Luc69, LucX.1, LucX.2 or Luc90. These monoclonal antibodies are named as the antibodies: Luc2, Luc3, Luc15, Luc22, Luc23, Luc29, Luc32, Luc34, Luc35, Luc37, Luc38, Luc39, Luc56, Luc60, Luc63, Luc69, LucX and Luc90, respectively, hereafter. Humanized versions are denoted by the prefix "hu" (see, e.g., U.S. Patent Publication Nos. 2005/0025763 and 2006/0024296, the contents of which are incorporated herein by reference).

In some embodiments, suitable anti-CS1 antibodies include isolated antibodies that bind one or more of the three epitope clusters identified on CS1 (SEQ ID NO: 1, Table 1 below; see, e.g., U.S. Patent Publication No. 2006/0024296, the content of which is incorporated herein by reference). As disclosed in U.S. Patent Publication No. 2006/0024296 and shown below in Table 1, the CS1 antibody binding sites have been grouped into 3 epitope clusters:

1. the epitope defined by Luc90, which binds to hu50/mu50 (SEQ ID NO: 2). This epitope covers from about amino acid residue 23 to about amino acid residue 151 of human CS1. This epitope is resided within the domain 1 (V domain) of the extracellular domain. This epitope is also recognized by Luc34, LucX (including LucX.1 and LucX. 2) and Luc69.

2. the epitope defined by Luc38, which binds to mu25/hu75 (SEQ ID NO: 3) and hu50/mu50 (SEQ ID NO: 81). This epitope likely covers from about amino acid residue 68 to about amino acid residue 151 of human CS1. This epitope is also recognized by Luc5.

3. the epitope defined by Luc 63, which binds to mu75/hu25 (SEQ ID NO: 4). This epitope covers from about amino acid residue 170 to about amino acid residue 227 of human CS1. This epitope is resided within domain 2 (C2 domain) of human CS1. This epitope is also recognized by Luc4, Luc12, Luc23, Luc29, Luc32 and Luc37.

The methods and pharmaceutical compositions are addressed in more detail below, but typically include at least one anti-CS 1 antibody as described above. In some embodiments, the pharmaceutical compositions include the anti-CS 1 antibody HuLuc63. HuLuc63 is a humanized recombinant monoclonal IgG1 antibody directed to human CS 1. The amino acid sequence for the heavy chain variable region (SEQ ID NO: 5) and the light chain variable region (SEQ ID NO: 6) for HuLuc63 is disclosed in U.S. Patent Publication No. 2005/0025763, the content of which is incorporated herein by reference, and in Table 1.
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>SEQ ID NO: 1</th>
<th>Amino Acid Sequence</th>
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<tr>
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<table>
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At some doses, additive effects are seen; at other doses, synergistic effects are seen. In some embodiments, the synergistic effect permits one or more therapeutic agents to be administered in combination with one or more anti-CS1 antibodies at a reduced dosage, while retaining efficacy. Given that the side effects associated with the use of these agents are dose-dependent, use of the compositions and methods described herein can reduce the deleterious side effects observed in conventional and novel treatment regimens used to treat MM when these agents are administered at their recommended dosages.

In other embodiments, the synergistic effect permits one or more therapeutic agents to be administered in combination with one or more anti-CS1 antibodies at the approved dosage, but with greater than the expected efficacy.

The compositions can be administered for the treatment of Monoclonal Gammopathy of Undetermined Significance (MGUS), smoldering myeloma, asymptomatic MM, and symptomatic MM, ranging from newly diagnosed to late-stage relapsed/refractory. Typically, administration of the compositions results in a reduction in M-protein in serum or urine such that a plateau, no change, minimal, partial or complete response is observed as defined by the European Group for Blood and Marrow transplantation (EBMT).

5.2 Pharmaceutical Compositions

Provided herein are pharmaceutical compositions that are beneficial in reducing tumor mass and/or regressing tumor growth, in patients diagnosed with multiple myeloma. The components of the pharmaceutical compositions are addressed in more detail below, but typically include an anti-CS1 antibody, such as HuLuc63 and one or more therapeutic agents. In some embodiments, the various components of the compositions are provided separately. For example, an anti-CS1 antibody can be provided in a first pharmaceutical composition, and a therapeutic agent provided in a second composition. When the composition comprises two or more therapeutic agents, an anti-CS1 antibody can be provided in a first pharmaceutical composition, one therapeutic agent can be provided in a second composition and the other therapeutic agent can be provided in a third composition. In other embodiments, an anti-CS1 antibody can be provided
in one pharmaceutical composition and the therapeutic agents can be combined and provided in a second pharmaceutical composition. In still other embodiments, one composition, comprising an anti-CS1 antibody combined with one or more therapeutic agents can be provided.

[0020] In typical embodiments, an anti-CS1 antibody is present in a pharmaceutical composition at a concentration sufficient to permit intravenous administration at 0.5 mg/kg to 20 mg/kg. In some embodiments, the concentration of HuLuc63 suitable for use in the compositions and methods described herein includes, but is not limited to, at least about 0.5 mg/kg, at least about 0.75 mg/kg, at least about 1 mg/kg, at least about 2 mg/kg, at least about 2.5 mg/kg, at least about 3 mg/kg, at least about 4 mg/kg, at least about 5 mg/kg, at least about 6 mg/kg, at least about 7 mg/kg, at least about 8 mg/kg, at least about 9 mg/kg, at least about 10 mg/kg, at least about 11 mg/kg, at least about 12 mg/kg, at least about 13 mg/kg, at least about 14 mg/kg, at least about 15 mg/kg, at least about 16 mg/kg, at least about 17 mg/kg, at least about 18 mg/kg, at least about 19 mg/kg, and at least about 20 mg/kg.

[0021] The anti-CS1 antibodies can be administered in single or multiple dose regimens. Generally, an anti-CS1 antibody is administered over a period of time from about 1 to about 24 hours, but is typically administered over a period of about 1 to 2 hours. Dosages can be repeated from about 1 to about 4 weeks or more, for a total of 4 or more doses. Typically, dosages are repeated once every week, once every other week, or once a month, for a minimum of 4 doses to a maximum of 52 doses.

[0022] Determination of the effective dosage, total number of doses, and length of treatment with an anti-CS1 antibody is well within the capabilities of those skilled in the art, and can be determined using a standard dose escalation study to identify the maximum tolerated dose (MTD) (see, e.g., Richardson et al., 2002, Blood, 100 (9) : 3063-3067, the content of which is incorporated herein by reference).

[0023] In some embodiments, one or more therapeutic agents are administered in combination with an anti-CS1 antibody. The agents can be administered concurrently, prior to, or following administration of an anti-CS1 antibody. In some embodiments, an anti-CS1 antibody is administered prior to the administration of the therapeutic agents. For example, an anti-CS1 antibody can be administered approximately 0 to 60 days prior to the administration of the therapeutic agents. In some embodiments, an anti-CS1 antibody, such as HuLuc63, is administered from about 30 minutes to about 1 hour prior to the administration of the therapeutic agents, or from about 1 hour to about 2 hours prior to the administration of therapeutic agents, or from about 2 hours to about 4 hours prior to the administration of the therapeutic agents, or from about 4 hours to about 6 hours prior to the administration of the therapeutic agents, or from about 6 hours to about 8 hours prior to the administration of the therapeutic agents, or from about 8 hours to about 16 hours prior to the administration of the therapeutic agents, or from about 16 hours to 1 day prior to the administration of the therapeutic agents, or from about 1 to 5 days prior to the administration of the therapeutic agents, or from about 5 to 10 days prior to the administration of the therapeutic agents, or from about 10 to 15 days prior to the administration of the therapeutic agents, or from about 15 to 20 days prior to the administration of the therapeutic agents, or from about 20 to 30 days prior to the administration of the therapeutic agents, or from about 30 to 40 days prior to the administration of the therapeutic agents, or from about 40 to 50 days prior to the administration of the therapeutic agents, or from about 50 to 60 days prior to the administration of the therapeutic agents.

[0024] In some embodiments, an anti-CS1 antibody is administered concurrently with the administration of the therapeutic agents. For example, an anti-CS1 antibody, such as HuLuc63, can be administered approximately 0 to 60 days after the administration of therapeutic agents. In some embodiments, HuLuc63 is administered from about 30 minutes to about 1 hour following the administration of the therapeutic agents, or from about 1 hour to about 2 hours following the administration of the therapeutic agents, or from about 2 hours to about 4 hours following the administration of the therapeutic agents, or from about 4 hours to about 6 hours following the administration of the therapeutic agents, or from about 6 hours to about 8 hours following the administration of the therapeutic agents, or from about 8 hours to about 16 hours following the administration of the therapeutic agents, or from about 16 hours to 1 day following the administration of the therapeutic agents, or from about 1 to 5 days following the administration of the therapeutic agents, or from about 5 to 10 days following the administration of the therapeutic agents, or from about 10 to 15 days following the administration of the therapeutic agents, or from about 15 to 20 days following the administration of the therapeutic agents, or from about 20 to 30 days following the administration of the therapeutic agents, or from about 30 to 40 days following the administration of the therapeutic agents, or from about 40 to 50 days following the administration of the therapeutic agents, or from about 50 to 60 days following the administration of the therapeutic agents.

[0025] The therapeutic agents can be administered in any manner found appropriate by a clinician and are typically provided in generally accepted efficacious dose ranges, such as those described in the Physician Desk Reference, 56th Ed. (2002), Publisher Medical Economics, New Jersey. In other embodiments, a standard dose escalation can be performed to identify the maximum tolerated dose (MTD) (see, e.g., Richardson, et al. 2002, Blood, 100 (9) : 3063-3067, the content of which is incorporated herein by reference).

[0026] In some embodiments, doses less than the generally accepted efficacious dose of a therapeutic agent can be
used. For example, in various embodiments, the composition comprises a dosage that is less than about 10% to 75% of the generally accepted efficacious dose range. In some embodiments, at least about 10% or less of the generally accepted efficacious dose range is used, at least about 15% or less, at least about 25%, at least about 30% or less, at least about 40% or less, at least about 50% or less, at least about 60% or less, at least about 75% or less, and at least about 90%.

[0029] The therapeutic agents can be administered singly or sequentially, or in a cocktail with other therapeutic agents, as described below. The therapeutic agents can be administered orally, intravenously, systemically by injection intra-muscularly, subcutaneously, intrathecally or intraperitoneally.

[0030] Examples of therapeutic agents that can be used in the compositions described herein include, but are not limited to, dexamethasone, thalidomide, melphalan, prednisone, doxorubicin, doxorubicin HCl liposome injection, bortezomib, and/or combinations thereof.

[0031] In some embodiments, two pharmaceutical compositions are provided: a first comprising a therapeutically effective amount of an anti-CS1 antibody, such as HuLuc63, and a second comprising a therapeutically effective amount of bortezomib.

[0032] In some embodiments at least two pharmaceutical compositions are provided: a first comprising a therapeutically effective amount of an anti-CS1 antibody, such as HuLuc63 and a second comprising a therapeutically effective amount of bortezomib and dexamethasone. In some embodiments, bortezomib and dexamethasone are provided separately, such that a total of three pharmaceutical compositions are provided: a first comprising an anti-CS1 antibody, such as HuLuc63, a second comprising bortezomib, and a third comprising dexamethasone.

[0033] Provided that the agents retain their efficacy, compositions comprising other combinations can be prepared, depending in part, on dosage, route of administration, and whether the agents are provided in a solid, semi-solid or liquid form.

[0034] In some embodiments, at least two pharmaceutical compositions are provided: a first comprising a therapeutically effective amount of an anti-CS1 antibody, such as HuLuc63, and a second comprising a therapeutically effective amount of bortezomib and optionally can comprise one or more of the following agents: thalidomide, dexamethasone, melphalan, doxorubicin, doxorubicin HCl liposome injection, and/or prednisone. Provided that the agents retain their efficacy, compositions comprising various combinations of thalidomide, dexamethasone, melphalan, doxorubicin, doxorubicin HCl liposome injection, and prednisone can be prepared depending in part, on dosage, route of administration, and whether the agents are provided in a solid, semi-solid or liquid form.

[0035] The pharmaceutical compositions can exist as a solid, semi-solid, or liquid (e.g., suspensions or aerosols) dosage form. Typically, the compositions are administered in unit dosage forms suitable for single administration of precise dosage amounts. For example, anti-CS1 antibodies can be packaged in dosages ranging from about 1 to 1000 mg. In some embodiments, anti-CS1 antibodies can be packaged in a dosage at least about 1 mg, at least about 10 mg, at least about 20 mg, at least about 50 mg, at least about 100 mg, at least about 200 mg, at least about 300 mg, at least about 400 mg, at least about 500 mg, at least about 750 mg, at least about 1000 mg.

[0036] The compositions can also include, depending on the formulation desired, pharmaceutically-acceptable, non-toxic carriers or diluents, which are defined as vehicles commonly used to formulate pharmaceutical compositions for animal or human administration. The diluent is selected so as not to affect the biological activity of the combination. Examples of such diluents are distilled water, physiological saline, Ringer’s solution, dextrose solution, and Hank’s solution.

[0037] In addition, the pharmaceutical composition or formulation can also include other carriers, adjuvants, or nontoxic, non-therapeutic, nonimmunogenic stabilizers and the like. Effective amounts of such diluent or carrier will be those amounts that are effective to obtain a pharmaceutically acceptable formulation in terms of solubility of components, or biological activity.

5.3 Methods

[0038] The pharmaceutical compositions described herein find use in treating MM. Typically, the compositions can be used to treat Monoclonal Gammopathy of Undetermined Significance (MGUS), smoldering myeloma, asymptomatic MM, and symptomatic MM, ranging from newly diagnosed to late stage relapsed/refractory.


[0040] The staging system most widely used since 1975 has been the Durie-Salmon system, in which the clinical stage of disease (Stage I, II, or III) is based on four measurements (see, e.g., Durie and Salmon, 1975, Cancer, 36;
These four measurements are: (1) levels of monoclonal (M) protein (also known as paraprotein) in the serum and/or the urine; (2) the number of lytic bone lesions; (3) hemoglobin values; and, (4) serum calcium levels. These three stages can be further divided according to renal function, classified as A (relatively normal renal function, serum creatinine value < 2.0 mg/dL) and B (abnormal renal function, creatinine value ≥ 2.0 mg/dL). A new, simpler alternative is the International Staging System (ISS) (see, e.g., Greipp et al., 2003, “Development of an international prognostic index (IPI) for myeloma: report of the international myeloma working group”, The Hematology). The ISS is based on the assessment of two blood test results, beta2-microglobulin (β2-M) and albumin, which separates patients into three prognostic groups irrespective of type of therapy.

Administration of the pharmaceutical compositions at selected dosage ranges and routes typically elicits a beneficial response as defined by the European Group for Blood and Marrow transplantation (EBMT). Table 2 lists the EBMT criteria for response.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EBMT/IBMTR/ABMTR Criteria for Response</th>
<th>Complete Response</th>
<th>Partial Response</th>
<th>Minimal Response</th>
<th>No Change</th>
<th>Plateau</th>
<th>Progressive Disease</th>
<th>Relapse</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No M-protein detected in serum or urine by immunofixation for a minimum of 6 weeks and fewer than 5% plasma cells in bone marrow</td>
<td>&gt; 50% reduction in serum M-protein level and/or 90% reduction in urine free light chain excretion or reduction to &lt;200 mg/24 hrs for 6 weeks2</td>
<td>25-49% reduction in serum M-protein level and/or 50-89% reduction in urine free light chain excretion which still exceeds 200 mg/24 hrs for 6 weeks3</td>
<td>Not meeting the criteria or either minimal response or progressive disease</td>
<td>No evidence of continuing myeloma-related organ or tissue damage, &lt; 25% change in M-protein levels and light chain excretion for 3 months</td>
<td>Myeloma-related organ or tissue damage continuing despite therapy or its reappearance in plateau phase, &gt; 25% increase in serum M-protein level (&gt; 5g/L) and/or &gt; 25% increase in urine M-protein level (&gt; 200 mg/24 hrs) and/or &gt;25% increase in bone marrow plasma cells (at least 10% in absolute terms)2</td>
<td>Reappearance of disease in patients previously in complete response, including detection of paraprotein by immunofixation</td>
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1EBMT: European Group for Blood and Marrow transplantation; IBMTR: International Bone Marrow Transplant Registry; ABMTR: Autologous Blood and Marrow Transplant Registry.
2For patients with non-secretory myeloma only, reduction of plasma cells in the bone marrow by > 50% of initial number (partial response) or 25-49% of initial number (minimal response) is required.
3In non-secretory myeloma, bone marrow plasma cells should increase by > 25% and at least 10% in absolute terms; MRI examination may be helpful in selected patients.

Additional criteria that can be used to measure the outcome of a treatment include “near complete response” and “very good partial response”. A “near complete response” is defined as the criteria for a “complete response” (CR), but with a positive immunofixation test. A “very good partial response” is defined as a greater than 90% decrease in M protein (see, e.g., Multiple Myeloma Research Foundation, Multiple Myeloma: Treatment Overview 9 (2005)).

The degree to which administration of the compositions elicits a response in an individual clinically manifesting at least one symptom associated with MM, depends in part, on the severity of disease, e.g., Stage I, II, or III, and in part, on whether the patient is newly diagnosed or has late stage refractory MM. Thus, in some embodiments, administration of the pharmaceutical composition elicits a complete response.

In other embodiments, administration of the pharmaceutical composition elicits a very good partial response or a partial response.

In other embodiments, administration of the pharmaceutical composition elicits a minimal response.

In other embodiments, administration of the pharmaceutical composition prevents the disease from progressing, resulting in a response classified as “no change” or “plateau” by the EBMT.

Routes of administration and dosage ranges for compositions comprising an anti-CS 1 antibody and one or more therapeutic agents for treating individuals diagnosed with MM, can be determined using art-standard techniques, such as a standard dose escalation study to identify the MTD (see, e.g., Richardson, et al. 2002, Blood, 100 (9) : 3063-3067, the content of which is incorporated herein by reference).
Typically, anti-CS1 antibodies are administered intravenously. Administration of the other therapeutic agents described herein can be by any means known in the art. Such means include oral, rectal, nasal, topical (including buccal and sublingual) or parenteral (including subcutaneous, intramuscular, intravenous and intradermal) administration and will depend in part, on the available dosage form. For example, therapeutic agents that are available in a pill or capsule format typically are administered orally. However, oral administration generally requires administration of a higher dose than does intravenous administration. Determination of the actual route of administration that is best in a particular case is well within the capabilities of those skilled in the art, and in part, will depend on the dose needed versus the number of times per month administration is required.

Factors affecting the selected dosage of an anti-CS1 antibody and the therapeutic agents used in the compositions and methods described herein, include, but are not limited to, the type of agent, the age, weight, and clinical condition of the recipient patient, and the experience and judgment of the clinician or practitioner administering the therapy. Generally, the selected dosage should be sufficient to result in no change, but preferably results in at least a minimal change. An effective amount of a pharmaceutical agent is that which provides an objectively identifiable response, e.g., minimal, partial, or complete, as noted by the clinician or other qualified observer, and as defined by the EBMT.

Generally, an anti-CS1 antibody, such as HuLuc63, is administered as a separate composition from the composition(s) comprising the therapeutic agents. As discussed above, the therapeutic agents can each be administered as a separate composition, or combined in a cocktail and administered as a single combined composition. In some embodiments, the compositions comprising an anti-CS1 antibody and one or more therapeutic agents are administered concurrently. In other embodiments, an anti-CS1 antibody can be administered prior to the administration of composition(s) comprising the therapeutic agent(s). In yet other embodiments, an anti-CS1 antibody is administered following the administration of composition(s) comprising the therapeutic agent(s).

In those embodiments in which an anti-CS1 antibody is administered prior to or following the administration of the therapeutic agents, determination of the duration between the administration of an anti-CS1 antibody and administration of the agents is well within the capabilities of those skilled in the art, and in part, will depend on the dose needed versus the number of times per month administration is required.

Doses of anti-CS1 antibodies used in the methods described herein typically range between 0.5 mg/kg to 20 mg/kg. Optimal doses for the therapeutic agents are the generally accepted efficacious doses, such as those described in the Physician Desk Reference, 56th Ed. (2002), Publisher Medical Economics, New Jersey. Optimal doses for agents not described in the Physician Desk Reference can be determined using a standard dose escalation study to identify the MTD (see, e.g., Richardson, et al. 2002, Blood, 100 (9) : 3063-3067, the contents of which are incorporated herein by reference).

In some embodiments, an anti-CS1 antibody is present in a pharmaceutical composition at a concentration, or in a weight/volume percentage, or in a weight amount, suitable for intravenous administration at a dosage rate at least about 0.5 mg/kg, at least about 0.75 mg/kg, at least about 1 mg/kg, at least about 2 mg/kg, at least about 2.5 mg/kg, at least about 3 mg/kg, at least about 4 mg/kg, at least about 5 mg/kg, at least about 6 mg/kg, at least about 7 mg/kg, at least about 8 mg/kg, at least about 9 mg/kg, at least about 10 mg/kg, at least about 11 mg/kg, at least about 12 mg/kg, at least about 13 mg/kg, at least about 14 mg/kg, at least about 15 mg/kg, at least about 16 mg/kg, at least about 17 mg/kg, at least about 18 mg/kg, at least about 19 mg/kg, and at least about 20 mg/kg.

6. EXAMPLES

Example 1: In vitro ADCC Assay: Methods and Results

ADCC was measured by calcein-AM release assay, with sensitivity similar to traditional Cr51 assay, as described previously. After informed consent, peripheral blood mononuclear cells (PBMCs) including natural killer (NK) effector cells were isolated from leukopheresis products of normal donors or peripheral blood from MM patients. Increasing concentrations (0-10 µg/ml) of either HuLuc63 or human isotype control IgG1 MSL109 mAbs were added at effector:target (E:T) ratios of 20:1, in a final volume of 200 µl per well. After 4h incubation, 100 µl culture supernatants were transferred to a Black ViewPlate™-96 plate and arbitrary fluorescent units (AFU) were read on a fluorometer (Wallac VICTOR2). This assay is valid only if (AFU mean maximum release - medium control release) / (AFU mean spontaneous release - medium control release) > 7. Calculation of % specific lysis from triplicate experiments was done using the following equation:

\[
\text{% Specific Lysis} = \frac{100 \times (\text{AFU mean experimental release} - \text{AFU mean spontaneous release})}{(\text{AFU mean maximal release}^2 - \text{AFU mean spontaneous release})}
\]
Calcein-AM release by target cells in the absence of Ab or NK cells.

Calcein-AM release by target cells upon lysis by detergent.

[0055] HuLuc63-mediated lysis of patient MM cells by effector cells from the same patient was measured using an ADCC assay. HuLuc63, but not iso IgG1, induced significant autologous myeloma cell lysis in patients in patient samples (FIGS. 1A-1C). HuLuc63-mediated autologous tumor cell lysis was also demonstrated in patients with MM resistant or refractory to novel anti-MM therapies including bortezomib and/or 17-AAG (targeting heat shock protein 90) (FIGS. 2A and 2B). These data suggest that HuLuc63 can target myeloma cells from patients that are newly diagnosed, or resistant to standard of care drugs and/or novel agents.

Example 2: HuLuc63 in combination with bortezomib

[0056] Bortezomib is a potent, specific, and reversible proteasome inhibitor. Proteasomes are present in all cells and function to help regulate cell growth. Inhibition of the proteasome results in apoptosis of cancer cells. Bortezomib has been shown to be particularly effective at killing myeloma cells and is currently approved for 2nd and 3rd line therapy in multiple myeloma. Recent data has shown that bortezomib treatment of myeloma cells results in down-modulation of cell-surface expression of MHC class I, an inhibitor of NK function (Shi et al., Blood (ASH Annual Meeting Abstracts), Nov 2006; 108:3498). The hypothesis is that bortezomib treatment of myeloma cells would make them more susceptible to NK-mediated killing and, thus, enhance HuLuc63-mediated ADCC. The purpose of this study was to examine whether using HuLuc63 in combination with bortezomib provided therapeutic benefit.

[0057] The effect of HuLuc63 and bortezomib treatment on expression of CS1 in MM cell lines and mouse xenograft tumors was examined by flow cytometry and immunohistochemistry respectively.

In vitro ADCC Assay: Methods and Results

[0058] OPM2 myeloma cells were harvested at mid-log phase, suspended at a density of 1.0 x 10^6 cells/mL in complete media (RPMI with 10% FBS) and treated overnight with or without Velcade (10 nM). Cells were collected, washed, resuspended at a density of 20 x 10^6 viable cells/mL, and labeled for one hour with 50 mCi Na_2[51Cr]O_4 per 10^6 cells. 51Cr-Labeled cells were washed then added to a 96-well V-bottomed polystyrene plate at a cell density of 15,000 cells per 75 μL RPMI supplemented with 10% heat-inactivated FBS. HuLuc63 and a human IgG1 isotype control antibody MSL-109 were added to target cells for a final antibody concentration ranging from 0.001 to 10 μg/mL. NK cells were enriched from the whole blood of healthy donors using the RosetteSep human NK cell enrichment cocktail (Stem Cell Technologies). The enriched NK cells were added to Velcade-treated or untreated OPM2 cells at a ratio of 10:1. After a 4-hour incubation at 37°C, cells were centrifuged and the supernatants measured for released 51Cr. Maximum release was determined from target cells lysed with 100 mg/ml Digitonin. Antibody independent cellular cytotoxicity (AICC) was determined using target cells, plus media, plus NK cells, while spontaneous lysis was determined using 51Cr-labelled cells plus media without NK effectors.

% Cytotoxicity was calculated as ((sample-AICC)/(Maximum-AICC) * 100.

[0059] CS1 protein expression was examined on the OPM2 multiple myeloma cell line with no significant change in CS1 expression observed pre- or post-treatment with HuLuc63, bortezomib or with both agents. The combination of HuLuc63 with bortezomib was then tested for anti-myeloma activity in vitro using ADCC assays. The results showed that pre-treatment with bortezomib significantly enhanced HuLuc63-mediated ADCC towards OPM2 cells using NK effector cells from healthy donors. OPM2 cells were pretreated with vehicle control (square symbols) or bortezomib (10 nM; round symbols) for 18 hrs and were then subjected to HuLuc63 mediated ADCC using human NK cells from healthy donors. HuLuc63 (closed symbols) and isotype control antibody (open symbols) were used at doses ranging from 0.001-10 μg/ml. The results show that bortezomib pre-treatment significantly decreased the EC_{50} for HuLuc63-mediated ADCC in vitro (FIGS. 4A-4D, Table 3).

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In vivo Xenograft Mouse Model: Methods and Results

[0060] Six- to eight- week old female IcrTac: ICR- Prkdc<sup>scid</sup> mice obtained from Taconic Farms (Germantown, NY) were inoculated with 1x10⁷ OPM2 (American Type Culture Collection) cells into the lower right flank. Caliper measurements were performed twice weekly to calculate tumor volume using the following formula: LxWxH/ 2, where L (length) is the longest side of the tumor in the plane of the animal's back, W (width) is the longest measurement perpendicular to the length and in the same plane and H (height) is taken at the highest point perpendicular to the back of the animal. When tumors reached an average size of about 100 mm³, animals were randomized into 3 groups of 8- 10 mice each and were treated with 1 mg/kg of antibody administered intraperitoneally twice a week for a total of 6 doses. Bortezomib was administered intraperitoneally at a dose of 0.75 mg/kg twice a week for a total of 6 doses. Tumor growth was monitored for a period of 1- 2 months. Animal work was carried out under NIH guidelines ("Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals") using protocols approved by IACUC at PDL BioPharma.

[0061] To examine the effect of HuLuc63 combination therapy with bortezomib in vivo, OPM2 tumor-bearing mice were treated with sub-optimal doses of HuLuc63 (1 mg/kg), or isotype control antibody twice weekly for three weeks. Bortezomib was given twice a week at 0.75 mg/kg to mice receiving either isotype control antibody or HuLuc63. The results showed significant anti-tumor activity of HuLuc63 alone and in combination with bortezomib (FIG. 5A). Mice in the combination treatment group exhibited on average 40-50 % smaller tumors than in the HuLuc63 monotherapy group, and 60-70% smaller tumors than in the bortezomib group.

[0062] In a second experiment, HuLuc63 was combined with bortezomib in vivo, using a different dose and dosing schedule for bortezomib, while keeping the original HuLuc63 dose and dosing schedule. OPM2 cells were inoculated into the flanks of SCID mice. When tumors reached an average size of about 100 mm³, animals were randomized into 4 groups of 15 mice each and were treated with 1 mg/kg of antibody administered intraperitoneally twice a week for a total of 10 doses. Bortezomib was administered intraperitoneally at a dose of 1 mg/kg twice for weeks 1 and 2, no treatment for week 3, and 1 mg/kg twice for weeks 4 and 5 for a total of 8 doses. The intent for this dosing schedule was to more closely mimic the dosing schedule of bortezomib in the clinic, where each treatment cycle consists of 2 weeks of dosing, with one week off. Tumor growth was monitored for a period of 1-2 months.

[0063] The results showed significant anti-tumor activity of HuLuc63 alone, bortezomib alone and for HuLuc63 in combination with bortezomib (FIG. 5B). Mice in the combination treatment group exhibited significantly smaller tumors than mice treated with either drug alone. The data indicates that bortezomib synergizes with HuLuc63 in anti-myeloma tumor activity.

Example 3: Phase 1b, open-label, dose-escalation study of HuLuc63 and bortezomib in multiple myeloma patients following first or second relapse

[0064] The proposed Phase 1b, multi-center, open-label, multi-dose, dose escalation study will evaluate the combination of HuLuc63 and bortezomib in patients with multiple myeloma after 1st or 2nd relapse. HuLuc63 will be given by intravenous injection (IV) at up to five dose levels ranging from 2.5 mg/kg to 20 mg/kg in combination with a fixed dose of bortezomib IV at 1.0 mg/m2. Patients will receive HuLuc63 every 10 days and bortezomib will be given in 21-day cycles (twice weekly for two weeks (days 1, 4, 8, 11) followed by a 10-day rest period (days 12-21)).

[0065] After 9 weeks of therapy (6 doses of HuLuc63, 3 cycles of bortezomib), EBMT criteria will be assessed. If a patient has progressive disease, HuLuc63 will be discontinued and bortezomib may be withdrawn or continued at the discretion of the site investigator. If the patient has responded or has stable disease at Week 9, dosing with HuLuc63 and bortezomib will continue so that a total of 24 weeks of treatment (16 doses HuLuc63, 8 cycles bortezomib) are completed or disease progression occurs. Dosing with HuLuc63 and bortezomib will continue until the data from the Week 9 visit are available.

[0066] Patients will receive HuLuc63 IV once every 10 days, with each dose infused over 1 hour. Bortezomib will be given as IVP for 8 three-week cycles with each cycle consisting of bortezomib on days 1, 4, 8 and 11 followed by a ten-day rest period (days 11 - 21). Dosing cohorts are as follows: 2.5 mg/kg HuLuc63/1.3 mg/m² bortezomib; 5 mg/kg HuLuc63/1.3 mg/m² bortezomib; 10 mg/kg HuLuc63/1.3 mg/m² bortezomib; 15 mg/kg HuLuc63/1.3 mg/m² bortezomib;
and, 20 mg/kg HuLuc63/1.3 mg/m² bortezomib.

[0067] HuLuc63 will be provided at a concentration of 10 mg/mL in an intravenous formulation in vials. Bortezomib will be provided as a 3.5 mg lyophilized cake or powder in a 10 mL vial, to be reconstituted with 3.5 mL normal (0.9%) saline, sodium chloride injection to 3.5 mL of 1mg/mL of bortezomib, as per Velcade® package insert.

[0068] Approximately 15 to 30 patients in 5 cohorts will be enrolled in the trial. Each cohort will begin with 3 patients. If no dose-limiting toxicity (DLT) is noted within the first 6 weeks of treatment in any patient, enrollment will begin in the next higher cohort. If one patient has a DLT, 3 additional patients will be enrolled in the cohort. If no other patient in the cohort has a DLT, escalation to the next cohort may proceed. If a second patient in a cohort has a DLT, the maximum tolerated dose (MTD) has been reached.

[0069] A dose-limiting toxicity (DLT) is defined using the National Cancer Center Institute Common Toxicity Criteria Version 3.0 (NCI CTCAE v3.0) as a grade 4 hematologic toxicity or hyperbilirubinemia, or a grade 3 toxicity in any other system considered related to HuLuc63 or the combination of HuLuc63 and bortezomib. For dose escalation to the next cohort, 3 assessable patients must complete their first 6 weeks (4 doses HuLuc63, 2 cycles bortezomib). If a DLT occurs, an additional three assessable patients will be accrued. Patients will be monitored for safety by assessing adverse events categorized by NCI CTCAE v3.0 and patients will be monitored for clinical activity using EBMT. The maximally tolerated dose (MTD) is defined as the highest dose studied for which the incidence of DLTs is \( \leq 33 \% \). The highest tolerated dose will be HuLuc63 20 mg/kg + bortezomib 1.0 mg/m² if no dose limiting toxicities are observed.

PARAGRAPHS OF THE INVENTION

[0070] 1. A pharmaceutical composition suitable for treating multiple myeloma in a subject, comprising a therapeutically effective amount of HuLuc63, a therapeutically effective amount of bortezomib, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein said composition is capable of being administered in a single or multiple dose regimen.

2. The pharmaceutical composition according to Paragraph 1 comprising a therapeutically effective amount of bortezomib.

3. The pharmaceutical composition according to Paragraph 1, further comprising a therapeutically effective amount of dexamethasone.

4. The pharmaceutical composition according to Paragraph 1, further comprising a therapeutically effective amount of thalidomide.

5. The pharmaceutical composition according to Paragraph 4, further comprising a therapeutically effective amount of dexamethasone.

6. The pharmaceutical composition according to Paragraph 1, further comprising a therapeutically effective amount of melphalan.

7. The pharmaceutical composition according to Paragraph 6, further comprising a therapeutically effective amount of prednisone.

8. The pharmaceutical composition according to Paragraph 1, further comprising a therapeutically effective amount of doxorubicin.

9. The pharmaceutical composition according to Paragraph 1 in which HuLuc63 is in an injectable form.

10. The pharmaceutical composition according to Paragraph 1, containing from 0.5 mg/kg to 20 mg/kg of HuLuc63.

11. The pharmaceutical composition according to Paragraph 1., containing from 0.2 mg/m² to 2.0 mg/m² of bortezomib.

12. The pharmaceutical composition according to Paragraph 1, in which HuLuc63 is administered after the administration of bortezomib.

13. The pharmaceutical composition according to Paragraph 1, in which HuLuc63 is administered concurrently with
14. The pharmaceutical composition according to Paragraph 1, in which HuLuc63 is administered prior to the administration of bortezomib.

15. The pharmaceutical composition according to Paragraph 1, in which administration of said pharmaceutical composition elicits a complete response.

16. The pharmaceutical composition according to Paragraph 1, in which administration of said pharmaceutical composition elicits a very good partial response.

17. The pharmaceutical composition according to Paragraph 1, in which administration of said pharmaceutical composition elicits a partial response.

18. The pharmaceutical composition according to Paragraph 1, in which administration of said pharmaceutical composition elicits a minimal response.

19. A method for increasing sensitivity of a multiple myeloma cell to a therapeutic agent, comprising contacting the cell with a therapeutically effective amount of HuLuc63.

20. The method according to Paragraph 19, further comprising contacting the cell with a therapeutically effective amount of bortezomib.

21. The method according to Paragraph 19, wherein the multiple myeloma cell is resistant to a therapeutic agent.

22. The method according to Paragraph 21, further comprising contacting said resistant cell with a therapeutic agent that the cell is sensitive to, said agent selected from the group consisting of thalidomide, dexamethasone, doxorubicin, melphalan, vincristine, carmustine, cyclophosphamide, prednisone, and/or combinations thereof.

23. A method of treating multiple myeloma in a subject, comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of HuLuc63, a therapeutically effective amount of bortezomib, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein said composition is capable of being administered in a single or multiple dose regimen.

24. The method according to Paragraph 23 comprising a therapeutically effective amount of bortezomib.

25. The method according to Paragraph 23, further comprising a therapeutically effective amount of dexamethasone.

26. The pharmaceutical composition according to Paragraph 23, further comprising a therapeutically effective amount of thalidomide.

27. The pharmaceutical composition according to Paragraph 26, further comprising a therapeutically effective amount of dexamethasone.

28. The pharmaceutical composition according to Paragraph 23, further comprising a therapeutically effective amount of melphalan.

29. The pharmaceutical composition according to Paragraph 28, further comprising a therapeutically effective amount of prednisone.

30. The pharmaceutical composition according to Paragraph 23, further comprising a therapeutically effective amount of doxorubicin.

31. The method according to Paragraph 23, in which HuLuc63 is administered intravenously at a dosage from approximately 0.5 mg/kg to approximately 20 mg/kg.

32. The method according to Paragraph 23, in which bortezomib is administered intravenously at a dosage from approximately 0.2 mg/m² to 2.0 mg/m².
33. The method according to Paragraph 23, in which said treatment elicits a complete response.

34. The method according to Paragraph 23, in which said treatment elicits a very good partial response.

35. The method according to Paragraph 23, in which said treatment elicits a partial response.

36. The method according to Paragraph 23, in which said treatment elicits a minimal response.

37. A method of treating multiple myeloma in a subject, comprising administering a pharmaceutical composition comprising a combination of a therapeutically effective amount of HuLuc63 and a therapeutically effective amount of bortezomib.

38. The method according to Paragraph 37 comprising a therapeutically effective amount of bortezomib.

39. The method according to Paragraph 37, further comprising a therapeutically effective amount of dexamethasone.

40. The pharmaceutical composition according to Paragraph 37, further comprising a therapeutically effective amount of thalidomide.

41. The pharmaceutical composition according to Paragraph 40, further comprising a therapeutically effective amount of dexamethasone.

42. The pharmaceutical composition according to Paragraph 37, further comprising a therapeutically effective amount of melphalan.

43. The pharmaceutical composition according to Paragraph 42, further comprising a therapeutically effective amount of prednisone.

44. The pharmaceutical composition according to Paragraph 37, further comprising a therapeutically effective amount of doxorubicin.

45. The method according to Paragraph 37, further comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

46. The method according to Paragraph 37, in which HuLuc63 is administered intravenously at a dosage from approximately 0.5 mg/kg to approximately 20 mg/kg.

47. The method according to Paragraph 37, in which bortezomib is administered intravenously at a dosage from approximately 0.2 mg/m² to 2.0 mg/m².

48. The method according to Paragraph 37, in which HuLuc63 is administered after the administration of bortezomib.

49. The method according to Paragraph 37, in which HuLuc63 is administered concurrently with the administration of bortezomib.

50. The method according to Paragraph 37, in which HuLuc63 is administered prior to the administration of bortezomib.

51. The method according to Paragraph 37, in which the treatment elicits a complete response.

52. The method according to Paragraph 37, in which the treatment elicits a very good partial response.

53. The method according to Paragraph 37, in which the treatment elicits a partial response.

54. The method according to Paragraph 37, in which the treatment elicits a minimal response.
<110> AbbVie Biotherapeutics Inc.
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

<120> Methods of Treating Multiple Myeloma Using Combination Therapies
Based on Anti-CS1 Antibodies

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Leu Gln Met Asn Ser Leu Arg Ala Glu Asp Thr Ala Val Tyr Tyr Cys
85 90 95

Ala Arg Pro Asp Gly Asn Tyr Trp Tyr Phe Asp Val Trp Gly Gln Gly
100 105 110

Thr Leu Val Thr Val Ser Ser
115

Asp Ile Gln Met Thr Gln Ser Pro Ser Ser Leu Ser Ala Ser Val Gly
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Asp Arg Val Thr Ile Thr Cys Lys Ala Ser Gln Asp Val Gly Ile Ala
20 25 30

Val Ala Trp Tyr Gln Gln Lys Pro Gly Lys Val Pro Lys Leu Leu Ile
35 40 45

Tyr Trp Ala Ser Thr Arg His Thr Gly Val Pro Asp Arg Phe Ser Gly

21
Claims

1. Use of HuLu63 in the preparation of a first medicament, and the use of bortezimob in the preparation of a second medicament, said medicaments for use in the treatment of multiple myeloma of a human patient, wherein the HuLuc63 is administered as an intravenous infusion at a dosage from 2.5 mg/kg to 20 mg/kg and wherein the bortezimob is administered as an intravenous infusion at a dosage from 0.2 mg/m² to 2.0 mg/m².

2. The use according to claim 1, wherein the bortezimob is administered at an intravenous dose of from 1.0 mg/m² to 1.3 mg/m².

3. The use according to claim 1, wherein the bortezimob is administered at an intravenous dose of 1.0 mg/m².

4. The use according to claim 1, wherein the bortezimob is administered at an intravenous dose of 1.3 mg/m².

5. The use according to any one of claims 1-4, wherein the HuLuc63 is administered at an intravenous dose of 2.5 mg/kg.

6. The use according to any one of claims 1-4, wherein the HuLuc63 is administered at an intravenous dose of 5 mg/kg.

7. The use according to any one of claims 1-4, wherein the HuLuc63 is administered at an intravenous dose of 10 mg/kg.

8. The use according to any one of claims 1-7, wherein the patient receives the HuLuc63 once every 10 days.

9. The use according to any one of claims 1-8, wherein the patient receives the bortezimob four times in a three week cycle.

10. The use according to claim 9, wherein the bortezimob is given on days 1, 4, 8, and 11 followed by a 10 day rest period.

11. The use according to any one of claims 1-10, wherein the first medicament and the second medicament are used with a third medicament comprising dexamethasone.
FIG. 1A

**HuLuc63-induced ADCC (BH PBMC Against BH CD138 Tumor Cells, E/T=10, 50,000 Target Cells Per Well)**

% Specific Lysis

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FIG. 1B

**HuLuc63-induced ADCC (BA PBMC Against BA Tumor Cells)**

% Specific Lysis

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FIG. 1C

**HuLuc63-induced ADCC (CY PBMC Against CY+Tumor Cells)**

% Specific Lysis

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HuLuc63-induced ADCC (BD PBMC Against BD Tumor Cells) Bortezomib-Resistant

% Specific Lysis

0 10 20 50 100
ug/ml

FIG. 2A

HuLuc63-induced ADCC Using BA PBMC Against BA Tumor Cells (Hsp90-, Bortezomib-Resistant Patient Tumor Cells)

% Specific Lysis

0 10 20 30 40
-10
0 10 20 50 100
ug/ml

FIG. 2B
**FIG. 4A**

**FIG. 4B**
## DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

<table>
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<th>Relevant to claim</th>
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims

Place of search: The Hague  
Date of completion of the search: 19 August 2013  
Examiner: Leherte, Chantal

**CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS**

- **T**: theory or principle underlying the invention  
- **E**: earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date  
- **D**: document cited in the application  
- **A**: technological background  
- **O**: non-written disclosure  
- **P**: intermediate document  
- **&**: member of the same patent family, corresponding document
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